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NEWS RELEASE

Jan. 24, 2007

Contact: UM President's Office, 406-243-2311.

LECTURE EXPLORES RIGHT TO VOTE, CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

MISSOULA—

This year's University of Montana Martin Luther King Jr. Day Lecture will take place at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 31, in Gallagher Business Building Room 123.

"How Much Difference Did the Voting Rights Act Make?: Black Ballots and the Civil Rights Movement" will be presented by Steven Lawson, one of the foremost historians of the civil rights movement.

The event is free and open to the public.

Lawson teaches history at Rutgers University. He received a doctorate at Columbia University in 1974 and taught at the University of South Florida and the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, before moving to Rutgers in 1998.

Among his many books are "Black Ballots: Voting Rights in the South, 1944-1969," "In Pursuit of Power: Southern Blacks and Electoral Politics, 1965-1982," "Running for Freedom: Civil Rights and Black Politics in America Since 1941," and "Civil Rights Crossroads: Nation, Community and the Black Freedom Struggle."

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